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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/820,761	03/30/2001	Akihiro Furukawa	109133	3856
25944	7590	08/10/2007	EXAMINER	
OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC			REFAI, RAMSEY	
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ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3627	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/820,761	FURUKAWA ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Ramsey Refai	3627

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 July 2007.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 2,7,11 and 15-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 2,7,11,15-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

Responsive to Request for Continued Examination (RCE) received July 19, 2007. Claims 2, and 7 were amended. Claims 3, 10, and 12-14 have been canceled. Claims 16-19 are new. Claims 2, 7, 11, and 15-19 are presented for further examination.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

3. Claims 2, 7, 11, and 15-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter, which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

Claims 2 and 7 have been amended to include the limitation " each node having a storing unit that prestores a particular multicast address, each node providing notification that the node is a member of the particular multicast address prestored in the storing unit" . There appears to be no support in the Applicant' s specification for this limitation.

Claims 18-19 are newly presented and contain the limitation " wherein each node of the plurality of nodes has the particular multicast address prestored in the storing unit prior

to being included as a node on the network.” There appears to be no support in the Applicant’ s specification for this limitation.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 2, 7, 11, and 15–19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Roy et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,496,859) in view of Bruck et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,801,949) and in further view of Haggerty et al (US Patent No. 6,331,983).

6. As per claim 2, Roy et al teach an IP address setting device, comprising:
a plurality of nodes in a network (column 1, lines 6–26; devices on the network);
an IP setting device comprising: a request packet transmitting unit that transmits a request packet to a particular multicast address, the request packet requesting transmission of MAC addresses from nodes of a network (column 2, lines 31–42, figs 5A–5B);
a response reception unit that receives responses from the nodes to the request packet transmitted by the request packet transmitting unit, each response including the MAC address of a corresponding node (column 2, lines 31–50, figs 5A–5B);
a display that displays a list of nodes that transmitted responses (column 2, lines 22–30; webpage).

Roy et al teach when responses are received, they are parsed and the device information such as network address, name, etc are added to a list of discovered devices (column 2, lines 35–42) but fail to teach an address information designation unit (1) that, based on the responses

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received from the nodes by the response reception unit, designates one node to be set with address information including an 1P address and (2) that designates the address information, and a selection unit that enables a user to designate the one node to be set with address information from the list, an address information setting unit that designates the address information for the one node, and a setting packet transmission unit that transmits a setting packet to the particular multicast address, the setting packet including the address information set by the address information designation unit and the MAC address included in the response of the one node.

However, Bruck et al teach a GUI setup screen for setting up primary IP addresses for computers on a cluster by manually entering IP addresses into text box for each computer identified in the cluster. The user can view which devices need their IP addresses set, and can then manually set the IP address for each device (column 18, line 30-67, Figure 14).

Roy et al teach each device provides information such as network address information (column 2, lines 31-39) but fail to explicitly teach each device having a storing unit that prestores a particular multicast address that the device is a member of.

However, Haggerty et al teach that members of a particular multicast group maintain a multicast group address in order to receive message addressed to that particular multicast group (see at least column 1, lines 30-35, column 3, line 10-12, column 3, lines 65-67, column 5, lines 10-15, 55-61).

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant' s invention to combine the teachings for Roy et al, Bruck et al, and Haggerty et al because doing so would create a method of setting IP addresses devices for a specific group of device using a multicasting address by using hardware identification information, displaying those discovered devices on the user interface and then manually assigning IP addresses to those discovered devices

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7. Claims 7 contain similar limitations as claim 2 above, therefore is rejected under the same rationale.

8. As per claim 11, Roy et al-Bruck et al-Haggerty et al teach comprising a router, the nodes and the IP address setting device communicating via the router (Roy et al fig 1, network inherently contains routers).

9. As per claim 15, Roy et al-Bruck et al-Haggerty et al teach wherein the request packet and the setting packet are transmitted from an IP address setting device via a router to the particular multicast address of the nodes (Roy et al fig 1, network inherently contains routers).

10. As per claims 16-17, Roy et al-Bruck et al-Haggerty et al teach wherein each node transmits, in response to the request packet, the response to the particular multicast address to which the request packet transmitting unit transmits the request packet, the response including the MAC address of the corresponding node (Haggerty: column 11, lines 45-55)

11. As per claims 18-19, Roy et al-Bruck et al-Haggerty et al teach wherein each node of the plurality of nodes has the particular multicast address prestored in the storing unit prior to being included as a node on the network (Haggerty et al: column 5, lines 10-18, column 3, lines 10-20, column 1, lines 30-37; nodes must be part of the multicast group and have the multicast address stored prior to receiving messages addressed to the multicast group).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ramsey Refai whose telephone number is (571) 272-3975. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 - 5:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ryan Zeender can be reached on (571) 272-6790. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Ramsey Refai
Examiner
Art Unit 3627
July 26, 2007

R. Zeender 8/7/07
F. RYAN ZEENDER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER